

1. (Amended) A test device for use in automated testing apparatus comprising: a substrate of [predetermined] size and shape[, so as to facilitate] suitable for handling by said automated testing apparatus, and including at least one indentation ⁽¹⁾ or aperture wherein said indentation or aperture is a [predetermined] location, size and shape [with respect to] suited for access by said automatic testing apparatus; and further comprising supportive material mounted on at least a part of said substrate so as to be at least partially position over said indentation or aperture; and wherein said supportive material comprises a guide means [characterised by] comprising a sample deposition portion and attached thereto a channel portion, said channel portion including an indicator means arranged therein at a predetermined distance away from said sample deposition portion; [whereby] wherein the positioning of a sample to be tested on said sample deposition portion of said supportive material results in said sample travelling along said channel portion and interacting with said indicator means so as to provide a measure of the adequacy of the fluid sample collected.

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6. (Twice Amended) A test device according to Claim 1 comprising a holding means, [whereby] wherein the handling of said test device by automated apparatus is facilitated.

8. (Amended) A test device according to Claim 7 wherein said hydrophobic material is latex or wax [or the like].

11. (Twice Amended) A test device according to Claim 1 wherein said indicator means is [associated with, or] impregnated with, or cross-linked to, or coated onto, at least a part of at least one surface of said supportive material.

17. (Twice Amended) A test device according to Claim 1 wherein said supportive material is provided with colourmetric and/or fluorometric and/or luminometric and/or radiometric indicator means [whereby] wherein fluid samples may be analysed.

19. (Twice Amended) A test kit comprising a combination of the test device according to claim 1 with a pouch that is of a size and shape of the test devic [claim 1].

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20. (Amended) A [pouch] test kit according to Claim 19
[wherein said pouch comprises] further comprising a desiccant.

21. (Amended) A [pouch] test kit according to Claim 20
wherein said desiccant comprises at least a part of at least one
surface of said [pouch] test kit.

22. (Amended) A [pouch] test kit according to Claims 20 or
21 wherein said desiccant is provided on an inner surface of said
[pouch] test kit.

23. (Twice Amended) A [pouch] test kit according to Claim
20 wherein said [pouch comprises a] desiccant is provided on a
surface of the test kit which is so sized and shaped so that when
the test device is inserted into the [pouch] test kit the
supportive material contained in the test device is opposite, or
adjacent, the desiccant.

24. (Twice Amended) A [pouch] test kit according to Claim
20 wherein said desiccant comprises silica gel.

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25. (Twice Amended) A [pouch] test kit according to Claim 19 wherein at least a part of [its] an outer surface of the test kit is made from impervious material.

27. (Amended) A test kit according to Claim [26] 25 comprising a means for obtaining a sample.

29. (Amended) A test kit according to Claim [26-28] 18-25 comprising instructions and/or a bar code for identifying purposes.

31. (Amended) A method for confirming the adequacy of a collected fluid sample using the test device according to Claim 1-18, comprising;

(i) providing a substrate of a [predetermined] suitable size and shape, and including at least one indentation or aperture [wherein said indentation or aperture] is of a predetermined location, size and shape so as to facilitate handling by an automated testing apparatus; and further comprising a

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supportative material mounted on at least a part of said substrate so as to be at least partially positioned over said indentation or aperture; wherein said supportive material comprises a guide means [characterized by] comprising a sample deposition portion, and [attached thereto] a channel portion attached thereto including an indicator means;

(ii) placing a fluid sample on said sample deposition portion and allowing said fluid sample to fill and/or permeate into said channel portion;

(iii) collecting sufficient fluid of said sample so that said sample passes over said indicator means in or associated with said channel portion; and

(iv) assessing said collected fluid sample by visualisation of said [indictor] indicator means and/or by automated machine analysis of said indicator means.